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# VOICE CONTROL OF AN UNMANNED SUBMERSIBLE

R. Nishijo

13 January 1983

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# AN ACTIVITY OF THE NAVAL MATERIAL COMMAND

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The advantages of voice control of the movement of an unmanned, remotely controlled submersible and the						
feasibility of such a system are discussed. Application of voice con						
Stereo (FOCUS) vehicle is described and an associated computer p	rogram usung presented.					
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#### INTRODUCTION

There are several remote unmanned submersibles which are under development or have been proposed. They all require manual vehicle control while simultaneously requiring operator control or attention to other tasks such as operating the search sonar, grabber, manipulator, etc. It became apparent that if voice control over the movement of these vehicles could be accomplished, the operator would have greater freedom to concentrate efforts on the more demanding tasks requiring immediate attention.

The remote unmanned submersible selected for voice control implementation was the Fiber Optic Controlled Underwater Stereo (FOCUS) vehicle. This vehicle was selected because of its availability and its ongoing development. Figure 1 shows a block diagram of the voice control FOCUS system.

#### BACKGROUND

The FOCUS vehicle (see figure 2) is a remote unmanned submersible which is controlled over a single fiber optic cable. The fiber optic cable carries all of the instrumentation and control signals required to operate and monitor the vehicle. The vehicle carries two T.V. cameras, giving it a

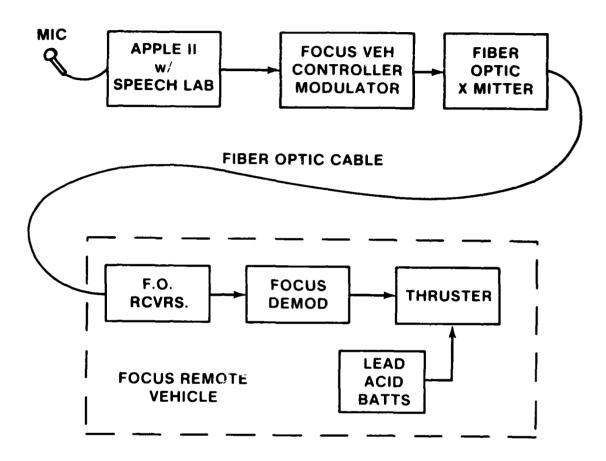


Figure 1. Voice Control Block Diagram.



Figure 2. FOCUS Vehicle

stereo viewing capability, and a scanning obstacle avoidance sonar for navigation and search. Propulsion is furnished by two horizontal and one vertical thruster. The power required to operate the vehicle is furnished by eight lead-acid batteries which are housed in four pressure housings.

#### **OBJECTIVE**

The objective of this project is to demonstrate the advantages of voice control on a remote controlled submersible and show its feasibility.

#### **APPROACH**

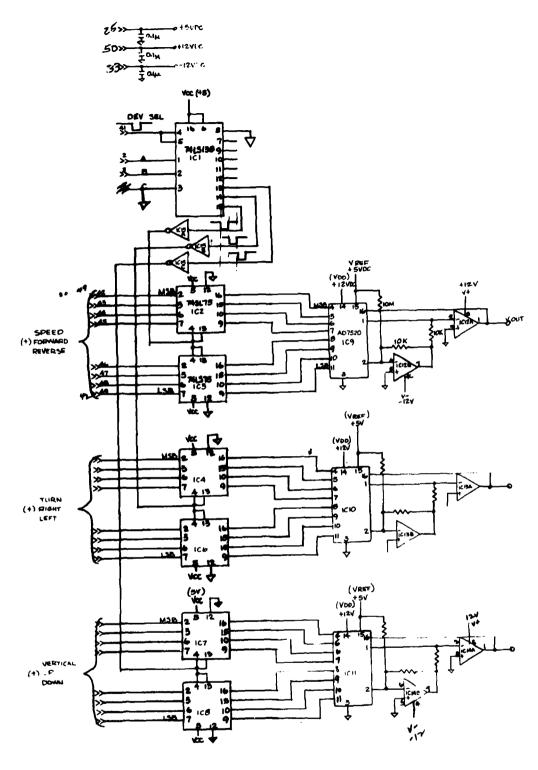
The FOCUS vehicle requires three input command channels.

The commands control: (a) Speed (forward, reverse), (b) Turn

(left, right), and (c) Vertical (up, down).

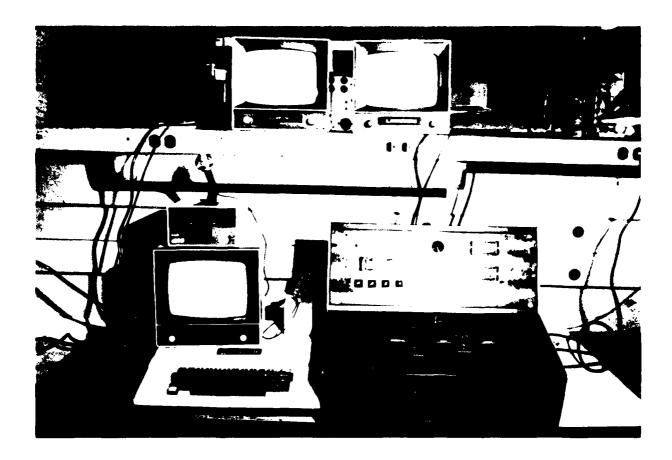
An Apple II computer with a speech recognition peripheral was purchased to be the voice recognition control system. A computer to fiber optic telemetry interface circuit (see figure 3) was designed and fabricated on an Apple computer hobby board for installation in the computer.

The computer (see figure 4) recognizes the command and speed, then outputs signals to the respective thrusters through the interface circuit. The software (see Appendix A) has been developed to interface with the speech recognition



1C1 16PM DIP 74L5138 (540-5)DECODAL 1C2 THEU ICB 16PM DIP 76L575 (48IT) LATCH ICG THEU ICH 16 PM DIP AD782O (10BT) DIA COMMETER [CIZ THEU ICH 8 PM DIP NE 55ZN (DUBL) OP-MAP ICH 16 PM DIP 74SLOS MEL INVESTER.

Figure 3. Computer Interface Circuit.



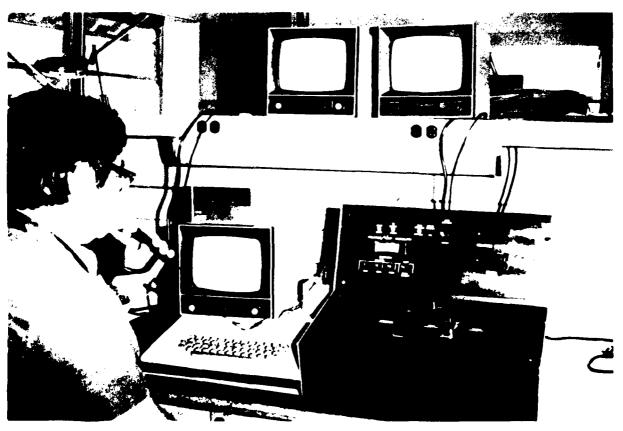


Figure 4. Computer and Control Console.

peripheral to which control is passed when commands are input. The peripheral has two modes of operation: (1) a training mode in which examples of each word are provided; and, (2) a recognition mode in which previously trained words are recognized. The peripheral executes its own program, which is independent and unchangeable, to determine which of the previously trained words were spoken. outputs the recognized word and returns the control to the original program. Three commands, direction, speed, and execute are entered sequentially in the program. The direction command must be recognized before a speed command can be entered and the speed command must be recognized before the execute commands can be entered. The direction commands AHEAD, BACK, PORT, STARBOARD, UP, DOWN, and ALL STOP. The speed commands are: ONE/THIRD, TWO/THIRDS, FULL The execute commands are GO (for execute) and and ZERO. IGNORE. IGNORE will cancel all previous inputs.

## CONCLUSION

The testing done with voice control on the FOCUS vehicle demonstrated the feasibility of voice control on remote unmanned submersibles. Due to the late start of the program, extensive operator tests were not run. However, the subjective responses

of the operators during the testing that did occur were positive. The vehicle could easily be controlled and learning to use the voice control was simple.

APPENDIX A

VOICE CONTROL SOFTWARE

10 Poke 74, 124: Poke 204, 124: Poke 75, 21: Poke 205, 21.

- 15 REM Set Lomen: 5500 for speechlab program
- 20 | Call -936: dim #\$ (15, FA (3), FB (3), FC (3)
- 30 Print: Print "TO CONTROL THE FOCUS VEHICLE,": Print: Print "THE OPERATOR MUST GIVE A COMMAND,"
- 40 Print: Print "SPEED, and EXECUTION. The command": Print: Print "AND SPEED ARE PRINTED OUT FOR YOUR"
- Print: Print "CONVENIENCE. If the Command or": Print: Print "SPEED PRINT OUT IS INCORRECT,"
- Print: Print "USE 'IGNORE' to delete the command.":
  Print: Print "IF THE COMMAND AND SPEED ARE CORRECT,"
- 70 Print: Print "EXECUTE WITH 'GO' STATEMENT.": Print: Print
- 80 | Input "TYPE "GO' to begin voice control program.", \$\$
- 90 | Slot 1 3: REM speechlab slot
- 95 Slot 2 -16160: REM Focus Address
- 100 | FA =  $\emptyset$ : REM ahead/back flag
- 105 | FB =  $\emptyset$ : REM port/starboard flag
- 110 FC =  $\emptyset$ : REM down/up flag
- 115 | F1 = 128:REM halt (1000) ( $\emptyset$ VDC)
- 120 | F2 = 255:REM neg full (1111) (5VDC) (235 approx 4VDC)
- | 125 | F3 = 192:REM neg half (1100) (2VDC)
- 130 F4 = 144:REM neg slow (1001) (.9VDC)
- 135 | F5 = 1: REM plus full (0000) (5VDC) (20 approx 4VDC)
- 140 F6 = 64: REM plus half (0100) (2VDC)
- 145 F7 = 106:REM plus slow (0110) (.9VDC)
- 160 DIM C\$ (15), W\$ (15), A (3), B (3), C (3)
- 170 Gosub 9000: REM init speechlab

- 180 Call -936: Print "THIS IS A PROGRAM TO CONTROL": Print: Print "THE FOCUS VEHICLE BY VOICE COMMANDS."
- 190 Print: Print "COMMANDS ARE: AHEAD-BACK-STARBOARD": Print: Print "PORT-UP-DOWN-ALLSTOP."
- Print: Print "Speeds are: ONE/THIRD, TWO/THIRDS": Print: Print "FULL-ZERO.": Print: Print "FIRST, WE TRAIN THE SYSTEM.": Print: Print
- 210 Input "Type 'GO' to start the program:" W\$

- 220 | For I 1 to 2
- 230 | W\$ = "ALL STOP": Print "SAY:"; W\$: GOSUB 9100
- 240 | W\$ = "GO": Print "SAY:"; W\$: GOSUB 9100
- 250 | W\$ = IGNORE": Print "SAY:"; W\$" GOSUB 9100
- 270 | W\$ = "BACK": Print "SAY:"; W\$: GOSUB 9100
- 280 | W\$ "STARBOARD": Print "SAY:"; W\$: GOSUB 9100
- 290 | W\$ = "PORT": Print "SAY:"; W\$: GOSUB 9100
- 300 | W\$ = "UP": Print "SAY:"; W\$: GOSUB 9100
- 310 | W\$ = "DOWN": Print "SAY:"; W\$: GOSUB 9100
- 320 | W\$ = "ONE/THIRD": Print "SAY:"; W\$: GOSUB 9100
- 330 | W\$ = "TWO/THIRDS": Print "SAY:"; W\$: GOSUB 9100
- 340 | W\$ = "FULL": Print "SAY:"; W\$: GOSUB 9100
- 345 | W\$ = "ZERO": Print "SAY:"; W\$: GOSUB 9100
- 350 NEXT I
- 360 | Call -936: Print: Print "THE SYSTEM IS NOW READY."
- 370 | Print: Print "THE FOCUS VEHICLE WILL NOW OBEY": Print: Print "YOUR COMMANDS.": Print: Print
- 380 Input "TYPE 'GO' to begin operation.", W\$
- 390 | GR: color = 15 |
- 400 | Call -936: Print "COMMAND PLEASE": GOSUB 9200: REM get a command

410 C\$ = W\$: A=FA: B=FB: C=FC

- 420 | Call -936: Print C\$
- 430 If W\$ = "ALL STOP" then 9250
- 440 Al = Slot 2
- 450 | If W\$ = "AHEAD" then 600
- 460 If W\$ = "BACK" then 610
- $470 \mid A1 = Slot 2 + 1$ :
- 480 If W\$ = "STARBOARD" then 630
- 490 If W\$ "PORTP then 620
- $500 \mid A1 = Slot 2 + 2$ :
- 510 | If W\$ = "UP" then 650
- 520 | If W\$ = "DOWN" then 640
- 530 | Print: Print "DID NOT UNDERSTAND YOU"
- 540 | For I = 1 to 300: NEXT I
- 550 GOTO 400
- 600 | FA = 1: GOTO 9300
- 610 | FA = -1: GOTO 9400
- 620 | FB = 1: GOTO 9300
- 630 | FB = -1: GOTO 9400
- 640 FC = 1: GOTO 9300
- 650 | FC = -1 : GOTO 9400

```
GR: Color = 15
 700
      If FA = 1 Then 9600
 710
      If FA = -1 Then 9610
 720
 730
      If FB = 1 Then 9630
      If FB = -1 Then 9620
 740
 750
      If FC = 1 Then 9650
      If FC = -1 Then 9640
 760
 770
      GOTO 400
      REM init speechlab
9000
9010
      PR#Slot 1: Print: PR #Ø: RETURN
9100
      REM Train Routine: ARG = W$
9110
      PR# Slot 1: Print W$:PR#Ø: RETURN
9200
      REM recognize routine
9210
      In #Slot 1: Input W$
9220
      PR #Ø: In #Ø: RETURN
9250
      POKE SLOT 2, F1: Poke slot 2 + 1, F1: Poke slot 2+2, F1:
      GR: color = 15: HLIN 4, 6 at 5: VLIN 4, 6 it 5
9260
      FA = \emptyset: FB = \emptyset: FC = \emptyset
9270
      Print Slot 2, Slot 2 + 1, Slot 2+2: Print Fl, Fl, Fl:
      For I = 1 to 200: NEXT I
9280
      GOTO 400
9300
      REM Plus speed routine
9305
      Call -936: Print C$
9310
      Print: Print "SPEED PLEASE": GOSUB 9200
```

```
9315
     If W$ = "IGNORE" then 9560
9320 \mid D1 = F7
9325 If W$ = "ONE/THIRD" then 9500
9330 | D1 = F6
9335 If W$ = "TWO/THIRDS" then 9500
9340 \mid D1 = F5
9345 If W$ = "FULL" then 9500
9350 \mid D1 = F1
9355 If W$ = "ZERO" then 9570
9360
      Print: Print: Print "SPEED UNKNOWN": For I = 1 to 300:
      Next I
9365
      GOTO 9300
9400
     REM Neg Speed routine
     Call -936: Print C$
94051
9410 Print: Print "SPEED PLEASE": GOSUB 9200
9415 If W$ = "IGNORE" then 9560
9420 \mid D1 = F4
9425
     If W$ = "ONE/THIRD" then 9500
9430
     D1 = F3
9435 If W$ = "TWO/THIRDS" then 9500
9440
     D1 = F2
9445 If W$ = "FULL" then 9500
9450 \mid D1 = F1
9455
     If W$ = "ZERO" then 9570
9460
      Print: Print: Print "SPEED UNKNOWN": For I = 1 to 300:
      Next I
9465
      GOTO 9400
```

```
9500 l
      Z$ = W$
9505
     Call -936: Print C$, Z$
9510
     GOSUB 9200: REM get execution statement
9520
     If W$ = "IGNORE" then 9560
     If W$ = "GO" then 9550
9530
9540
      Print: Print: Print "ILLEGAL STATEMENT": For I = 1 to 300:
      Next I
9545
     GOTO 9505
9550
      Print: Print "COMMAND ACCEPTED": Print Al, Dl: For I =
      1 to 200: Next I: Poke Al, Dl
9555
      GOTO 700
9560
      Print: Print: Print "COMMAND IGNORED": For I = 1 to 300:
      Next I
9565
      FA = A: FB = B: FC = C: GOTO 700
     If C$ = "AHEAD" then 9700
9570
      If C$ = "BACK" then 9700
9575
9580
      If C$ = "STARBOARD" then 9710
      If C$ = "PORT" then 9710
9585
9590
      If C$ = "UP" then 9720
9595
      If C$ - "DOWN" then 9720
9600
      VLIN 1, 7 at 5: HLIN 4, 6 at 2: Plot 3, 3: Plot 7, 3:
      Plot 2, 4: Plot 8, 4: GOTO 730
9610
      VLIN 9, 15 at 5: HLIN 4, 6 at 14: Plot 3, 13: Plot 7, 13:
      Plot 2, 12: Plot 8, 12: GOTO 730
9620
      HLIN 5, 10 at 8: VLIN 7, 9 at 9: Plot 8, 6: Plot 8, 10:
      Plot 7, 5: Plot 7, 11: GOTO 750
9630
      HLIN 0, 5 at 8: VLIN 7, 9 at 1: Plot 2, 6: Plot 2, 10:
      Plot 3, 5: Plot 3, 11: GOTO 750
```

	•	
9640	VLIN 35,	39 at 2: VLIN 35, 39 at 4: Plot 3, 39: GOTO 400
9650	VLIN 35, 39: GOTO	39 at 4: VLIN 37, 39 at 2: Plot 3, 37: Plot 3, 400
9700	$FA = \emptyset$ :	GOTO 9500
9710	$FB = \emptyset$ :	GOTO 9500
9720	$FC = \emptyset$ :	GOTO 9500

